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REMARKS

This application pertains to a novel pressure-sensitive adhesive based on a chemically crosslinked polyurethane by which paper, paperboard and other lightweight articles can be bonded to each other and then separated without residue or damage.

Claims 1-12 are pending.

Claims 1-8 and 10-12 stand rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Schumann (US 2003/0059706). The Examiner sees Schumann as disclosing a pressure-sensitive adhesive comprising an asymmetric diisocyanate, a polyoxypropylene triol and a polyoxypropylene triol, wherein the ratio of OH groups of the diol to those of the triol is 0.7, thereby meeting the lower limit of Applicants' range.

Applicants' previously provided the Examiner with calculations that show that all of Schumann's Examples result in NCO/OH ratios below their minimum of 0.7. The Examiner, however, based her calculations on a different molecular weight for Baycoll, and, based on her calculations, insists that Schumann's Examples do reach Applicants' minimum NCO/OH ratio of 0.7.

Therefore, in a determined effort to advance the prosecution of this application, Applicants have amended their range to 1.0-9.0. Support for the new lower limit can be found in Applicants' Examples 5, 6 and 15, and no new matter is introduced by this amendment.

There is nothing to be found anywhere in the Schumann reference that would teach or suggest the changes that would be necessary to arrive at Applicants' NCO/OH range of 1.0-9.0.

Accordingly, Applicants' claims are neither anticipated nor suggested by Schumann, and the rejection of claims 1-8 and 10-12 under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Schumann (US 2003/0059706) should now be withdrawn.

Claim 9 stands objected to as depending from a rejected base claim. The foregoing amendments and remarks are believed to obviate the rejection of the base claim and, thereby, the objection to claim 9 as well. The objection to claim 9 should accordingly now be withdrawn.

In view of the present amendments and remarks, it is believed that claims 1-12 are now in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of said claims by the Examiner is respectfully requested, and the allowance thereof is courteously solicited. Should the Examiner not deem the present amendment and remarks to place the instant claims in condition for allowance, it is respectfully requested that this Amendment Under Rule 116 be entered for the purpose of placing the prosecution record in better condition for appeal.

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CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

If any extension of time for this response is required, Appellants request that this be considered a petition therefor. Please charge the required petition fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

ADDITIONAL FEE

Please charge any insufficiency of fee or credit any excess to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

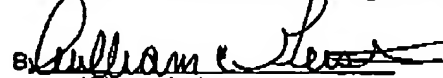
Respectfully submitted,
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile, no. 571-273-8300 to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 24, 2006

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William C. Gerstenzang
Date August 29, 2006